874 The middle school lasts from five to six years, and if the child wants to leave school at this stage, he can continue in several trade institutes. There are corresponding institutes based on the completion of the folk school as well, and a talented pupil can even this way work himself up to the university

873 level. The three highest grades in the secondary school, called the gymnasium, are preparatory for the university, and can more or less be compared to the junior colleges in America. New subjects are added to the curriculum, among others at least one more foreign language. An adequate knowledge of at least two foreign languages, not including Swedish, is indispensable for higher studies in a country like Finland, where very few books needed in the university can be obtained in one's own language.

Successful work in the secondary schools,

873 the same for all students throughout the country. The examination can be taken again the next fall if failed the first time, but the percentage of those rejected is fairly high, up to 25 per cent in some years. Those who pass the examination have the right to wear the coveted white student's cap, alike for both boys and girls, and are regarded as "free academic citizens."

874 The matriculation examination is a prerequisite for entrance in a university or college, but in addition many departments require entrance examinations. No general courses are offered at the university; specialization begins right away, and the student is left to progress at his own speed and at his own responsibility. No credit system exists, but the students must attend certain classes, seminars and laboratories, and show in several examinations that he has

874 acquired a mastery of his chosen field. Study for the Magister Philosophiae or the Master's degree (in most departments no lower degrees are given) takes from two to five years, depending on the curriculum and on the abilities of the individual. Medical studies require the longest time, up to eight years, until the student reaches the licentiate degree, which is required of all practicing doctors.

Anyone who has obtained the Master's degree with a "laudatur," the highest grade, in two separate subjects is qualified to become a candidate for the Doctor's degree without attending any more classes or passing further examinations. The writing of the dissertation, however, requires several years, for it must display original scholarship and contribute something new to the field. It must also be published in

874 several hundred copies--a severe obstacle for many candidates. The scholarships available are too few and to inadequate to allow the candidate to concentrate wholly upon his work, and it is rare that anybody, no matter how talented, can achieve a Doctor's degree in less than ten years after completing his Master's. If has been suggested that the requirements should be lowered for both the Master's and the Doctor's degree or some lower degrees established, since too many students seem to be unable to comclude their studies.

Colleges and universities operating during the academic year 1950-51 were:

| | Number of students |
|---|---|
| University of Helsinki | 8,945 |
| University of Turku | 534 |
| Åbo Akademi | 445 |

| | |
|---|---|
| 879 Technological Institute of Finland | 2,194 |
| University of Commerce | 845 |
| Turku College of Commerce | 75 |
| Swedish College of Business | 363 |
| Business School of Åbo Akademi | 151 |
| College of Social Science | 620 |
| Swedish Citizens' College | 47 |
| College of Veterinary Medicine | 118 |
| Teachers' College in Jyväskylä | 294 |
| Pro team Teachers' College in Helsinki | 245 |
| Pro team Teachers' College in Turku | 189 |

The total number of students in colleges and universities was 15,065, 37.71 per cent of which were women. Women outnumbered men in the teachers' colleges and in the College of Social Science, which prepares social workers,

874 journalists and librarians.

The University of Helsinki is by far the most important institute of higher studies in Finland. Founded in 1640 (until 1827 situated in Turku) it has the following faculties and departments: theology, law, medicine, history and philology, political science, mathematics and natural sciences, agriculture and forestry, physical education, and pharmacy. There are two private universities in Turku, the Finnish language University of Turku with its three faculties: humanities, mathematics and natural sciences, and medicine, and the Swedish language Åbo Akademi which has the following departments: humanities, mathematics and natural sciences, political science, chemistry and technology, and theology. The Technological Institute of Finland (in Helsinki) is divided into the following

874 departments: structural engineering, electrotechnology, woodworking, chemistry, industrial mining, surveying, architecture, and general science.

875 The training of primary school teachers takes place in special schools, called seminaries, which are based either on a completed primary school or a completed middle school education; in addition there are two-year teachers' colleges on the university level. In order to obtain a permanent position in a State secondary school, the applicant must have a Master's degree in the subjects taught and two semesters' training in one of the normal lyceums. Private secondary schools, in order to obtain State support, must have a certain percentage of fully qualified teachers on their staffs.

The importance of vocational schools has

p74 The importance of vocational schools has lately been steadily increasing, and new schools have been established. But still their number is not sufficient. The most important groups of trade schools and their enrollments in 1950-51 were:

| | Number | Enrollment |
|---|---|---|
| Technical Schools | 17 | 4,000 |
| Vocational Schools | 102 | 14,300 |
| Commercial Schools | 63 | 6,000 |
| Schools of Navigation | 7 | 200 |
| Agricultural Schools | 58 | 1,900 |
| Schools of Stock-Breeding | 29 | 920 |
| Dairy Schools | 4 | 100 |
| Horticultural Schools | 5 | 140 |
| Schools of Forestry | 7 | 400 |
| Schools of Domestic Arts and Crafts | 122 | 2,200 |

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Schools for Hospital and Public Health Nurses | 11 | 520 |
| Institutes of Hygiene and Midwifery | 2 | 320 |
| Institutes for Nursery Schools Teachers | 1 | 110 |
| Sibelius Academy (Music School) | 1 | 640 |
| Schools of Dramatic Art | 2 | 30 |

873
369 An important role in public education is played by the numerous (81) peoples' high schools --a unique Scandinavian development--which operated as boarding schools and offer courses of one or two years, intended especially for rural youth. The emphasis here is on a general education and on practical subjects, and these institutions have achieved good results in raising the living standards and the general cultural level in rural areas. In the cities there are

659
874 The State, on the other hand meets the costs of the
793 Theological Faculty in the University of Helsinki, where the vast majority of the ministers receive their education. To keep the scholarship of the ministers on a high level, only those graduated from the theological faculties of the University of Helsinki or of the Swedish-speaking university in Turku can be ordained as officiating ministers.

871 The State also arranges instruction in religion
659 in all grades of the primary and secondary schools according to the denomination of the children. The Greek Catholic children thus get special instruction; those outside the church need not be present at the lessons, although they usually prefer to attend the classes in religion.

795 The Greek Catholic Church has a position corresponding to that of the Lutheran. It also has a vast autonomy under the jurisdiction of